

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:22:51 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 15:39:02 -0800
From: Richard.McAllister@Eng.Sun.COM (Richard McAllister)
Message-Id: <9412192339.AA11467@urth.Eng.Sun.COM>
Subject: Re: 30 mtrs and Tech +

>
> >
> > Has anyone had the idea of letting the Tech+ liscenses get 30 meters?
> > It would be great - QRP equipment is cheap, you can get more QSO's
> > on it w/ QRP, and it is a CW band. Plenty of practice to get the 13.
>
> Sure...upgrade to General. Please read this whole paragraph before
> you just me as being mean!!! 13wpm with multiple choice answers isn't
> really that hard.

Yeah, but it's a lot easier to get to 13+ if one gets on the air.
That's why we have the Novice license in the first place.

Look at the state of the Novice/Tech+ bands right now:

80: antenna problems for a lot of people. Very Noisy.
40: Full of broadcast QRM. About a year back there was a proposal floating
about to relocate the Novice band away from the broadcasters; seems
a 30 meter Novice band would be a lot less disruptive.
15/10: at this point in the spot cycles, these bands are very erratic.
To somebody trying to get on every day and do a couple
of Q's to get their speed up, they're practically useless due
to the extreme unreliability.

A 30 meter Novice authorization would seem to be very helpful, and given
that the band isn't highly occupied right now I don't see any downside.

On the other hand, by the time a rules change could get through
the sunspots will be back...

Rich, K06CL

[This will be my last post on this subject on qrp-l; if somebody
wants to discuss this further, I suggest rec.radio.amateur.policy,
which could use a new topic to chew on now and again.]

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 04:14:25 1994
From: K7YHA@aol.com
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 01:18:08 -0500
Message-Id: <941219011806_1641963@aol.com>
Subject: Re: 750uW, 1333.3 miles per W...

Good job, Paul.

Does anybody know the actual KM/Watt record on 40 meters?

I know that WB8ELK & K7IRK hold the record for 10 meters...if memory serves me correctly, it somewhere above 2 BILLION!

Look for AA4XX, KA3WTF & me (K7YHA) on 7040 for the next several weeks using some QRPpppppp power levels.

72 rich

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 13:29:50 1994

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 08:40:02 -0600

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Message-Id: <9412191440.AA20688@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Subject: Re: 750uW, 1333.3 miles per W...

The record (QRP ARCI) for 40M is

1,000,000 miles/W set May 11, 1968 by WA6JPR and W6TYP over distance of 354 miles at 354uW power level and it was a 2xQRP contact. W6TYP being at the 354uW level and WA6JPR at the 0.25W level.

This is published data in QQ. I am doing a summary for all bands and will post here, but I have to finish the table for some other stuff too, plus the FAQ. :-) Maybe this week with some holiday time I can get caught up. NOT!

One of the things that you guys/gals had better be keeping in mind - the US Postal Rates go up in two weeks. I'm busy catching up on my QSL'ng. If you worked me, you will get a card from me in the next week. I just hope you haven't moved from the first of the year or since you last updated your files with the FCC.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 09:40:06 1994

From: jwp@chemical-eng.edinburgh.ac.uk

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 11:15:56 GMT

Message-Id: <544.9412191115@aith.chemeng.ed.ac.uk.chemeng.ed.ac.uk>

Subject: Re: balunless Clark and G5RV

Rick,

Thanks for confirming my memory on no baluns; I don't have the ARRL book but saw it somewhere in an RSGB article.

Some boat anchor pi-nets were real ATUs. My first TX, not on the ham bands, was a WW2 military radio which had a tapped coil and 10way switch. It would load anything from a 6 foot whip to a 200 foot longwire!

73, Jack gm0rwu

PS. A number of people asked me about my qrp Z-match. It's probably no different from quite a large number of designs, but I'll try and post it in the next couple of days.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 02:22:28 1994
Message-Id: <9412191903.D8748q0@wa8tzg.mi.org>
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 19:03:42 EST
From: wwm@wa8tzg.mi.org (Bill Meahan)
Subject: Re: balunless Clark and G5RV

Jack writes:

>Some boat anchor pi-nets were real ATUs. My first TX, not on the ham bands,
>was a WW2 military radio which had a tapped coil and 10way switch. It
>would load anything from a 6 foot whip to a 200 foot longwire!
>

AMEN!

My first rig as a Novice (WN8NWE in 1964) was an old Johnson Viking II. That puppy was too heavy for me to lift without my Dad's help and was crystal controlled despite its size. What is germane to this reply though is that it used a BIG roller coil for the pi-net inductor. Darn thing could match a piece of wet spaghetti! :-)

QRP note: the off-again-on-again work on the OHR Sprint-30 is nearly at and end. I hope to be working QRP on 30 by the new year!!

72.97265 <- calculated on a Pentium :-)

--

Bill Meahan WA8TZG wmeahan@wa8tzg.mi.org
Member of: ARRL, IMRA, NorCal QRP, G-QRP (#8468), IEEE Computer Society
Hey, this is my OWN computer! I can say what I want!
cat: a purr bearing mammal

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 05:07:26 1994
From: K7YHA@aol.com
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 01:16:23 -0500
Message-Id: <941219011352_1639692@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Clandestine operation

The Brits cornered the market on "Spy Radios" during WWII. The B-2 suitcase radio was probably the most famous. G3RJV (Rev. George) use to have one. He turned me onto this phase of the hobby. I had a Mk-123 spy rig that covered 2-18 MHz on the Rx and was crystal controlled on Tx. The antenna was a roll of wire on a roll-up spool (much like the ones sold by R.S. for SWL). The rig had a built in key and dual power supply.

My Mk-128 set is a two piece rig used by the SAS up until the mid-1960s. It is Xtal controlled on Tx and the RX covers 2 to abt 12 MHz. Mine is in fair shape and I built an AC power supply for it. Used it on 160 mtrs while in the UK as G5CSU.

The OSS had a suitcase set similar to the Brits B-2. I have only seen pictures of it, never a real life sample.

The US Army used the PRC-64 for years to let the SF troops communicate in the bush. these rigs can occasionally be found in flea markets. There was a CIA variant but I don't remember the nomenclature.

Also, a good friend of mine use to be in SF during Viet Nam. He said that they had rigs that were tuned to the carrier freq of R. Hanoi and that they would use these rigs when working close to Hanoi since it was almost impossible to DF the SF team when R. Hanoi was on the air. Unsure of the nomenclature of the gear, though.

72.
rich

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 20:11:23 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412192318.AA08399@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: Cribsheet for CW Foxchasers (12/19/94)
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 18:18:05 -0500 (EST)

Remember: The CW FOX runs tomorrow night (Tues. 12/20) E.S.T.!!
His callsign is: KA7ULD

For those wanting to detect fellow I-netters, here is the fist cribsheet. If you think you name should be on it, let me know. I'm not publishing anyone not asking so. :^)

Two formats: Columns across ... and single column.
-- de Steve AB4EL
-----Cut Here-----

KX1E N2CX VE3DNL AB4EL KC5CUW K06CL KC7FII KF8AT

NM1J	N2ELW	N3PFF	WA4NID	AB5QE	KK6MC/5	KD8BJ
	N2PSH	WA3NNA	WB4OWL	W5TB	K6QQ	AA8CY
	KV2X	VE3VAW	KE4PC	W5TFB		WB8E
			AD4ZE	K5UP		KF8EE
			WB4ZKA			NS80
						WB8ZJL

KX1E
 NM1J
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 N2CX
 N2ELW
 N2PSH
 KV2X
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 VE3DNL
 N3PFF
 WA3NNA
 VE3VAW
 ..
 WA4NID
 WB4OWL
 KE4PC
 AD4ZE
 WB4ZKA
 ..
 KC5CUW
 AB5QE
 W5TB
 W5TFB
 K5UP
 ..
 K06CL
 KK6MC/5
 K6QQ
 ..
 KC7FII
 ..
 KF8AT
 KD8BJ
 AA8CY
 WB8E
 KF8EE
 NS80
 WB8ZJL

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 03:13:39 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 22:57:16 -0700 (MST)
From: "Timothy J. Pettibone" <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>
Subject: Re: Cribsheet for CW Foxchasers (12/19/94)
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412192220.A31289-0100000@paris>

Steve:

Please put me on the crib sheet.

Tim
AB50U
Las Cruces, NM

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 23:46:58 1994
From: bobea@watson.ibm.com
Message-Id: <199412191432.GAA15292@mail.netcom.com>
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 09:22:02 EST
Subject: Fox Hunt Propagation

A lot of people, most recently Craig LaBarge, have commented about last week's Fox Hunt ... and not hearing the fox.

Wow, I didn't know there were so many of you out there; wish I could have heard you too!!!

In my report, I mentioned it was a good night for long skip. Long skip was ALL there was. I have nearly 100% reliable communications at the 600-800 mile range. OH, MI, IN, KY, TN, GA, and yes ME, are all a "piece of cake" normally. However, "normally" for me is a little earlier in the evening. I've been spending more time lately at the later hours and there's a dramatic change after darkness covers the entire continent. Last Wednesday I had the longest skip I've experienced, but all of the normal stuff either disappeared or dropped about 6 S units.

Good news was that I picked up 3 new states in the west, NM AZ, and CA. The bad news was a low score and missing out on a lot of friends in middle America.

By the way, it's a good deal to move up 5khz and carry on with other list-dwellers after catching the fox. See you on the 20th for KA7ULD!

Happy Holidays and 73, Bob - N2IPY

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 02:17:55 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Dec 1994 20:48:26 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: Re: FOX Schedule
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941218204530.20981C-100000@ume>

I can copy cw at 25 wpm so I am not "anti cw" but why not have a go at ssb once a month.....if I can work malaysia and the carribean on 40 meter ssb, I suspect its not impossible to work a few stateside ssb qrpers.

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no subsitute for skill"

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 07:18:53 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412190854.AA02475@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: Re: FOX Schedule...SSB
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 03:54:25 -0500 (EST)

This is going to be like shooting fish in a barrel compared to CW. :^)

>
> I can copy cw at 25 wpm so I am not "anti cw" but why not have a go at
> ssb once a month.....if I can work malaysia and the carribean on 40
> meter ssb, I suspect its not impossible to work a few stateside ssb qrpers.
>

> *****
> Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
> Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca * NorCal 519 ARCI 7099 GQRP 8329
> Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no subsitute for skill"
> *****

After a lapse of more than 25 years, I thought to get my ticket again...and could still copy 15 wpm. :^)

Nonetheless, I love SSB QRP.

I volunteer to co-ordinate the SSB QRP FOX hunt. Rick wasn't brash enough to do it first.

I will offer a prize...to be announced (soon). Volunteering an additional prize(s) is welcome.

Tonight I will scout 40 and 75 Meters...to discover reasonable holes.

I propose that the FOX must offer a 40 Meter session or sessions covering at least one hour.

I further propose that the FOX offer an *optional* 75 Meter session(s) for the sake of stations closeby the FOX. Unlike the CW segment of 40 M, the phone band propagates differently :^) to wit: by 8:00 pm EST, skip goes right over the heads of WMass from NC, for example.

I will announce a session for this week...maybe Thursday night. If we're going to roll it out, better to start now. Besides, if there is a low turn out 'cuz of the holidays, I won't feel bad. I know I have a good signal on 40 and a good one on 75. Peanut power is my forte! :^)

Sorry Novice and Tech+ ops: this is why you should think of upgrading. :^)

Of course, an added feature of both 40 and 75 is the subdivision of those bands into General-Advanced-Extra. They seem to get quieter and less raucous in that order...especially on 75. ;^) Another good reason to think about upgrading.

So, clearly, the FOX must offer at least one reasonable length session somewhere in the General segment of 40...and ditto if the option of a 75 M session is taken. As an incentive to upgrading, additional shorter sessions (optional) are allowed for the Advanced and Extra segments....let's say that if you want to run an Extra session, you must also have an Advanced Session...but not visa-versa.

Why propose segment hopping? Three reasons:

- 1) You will have to verify your clock against WWV, or you will be completely out to lunch. :^)
- 2) On 40 the BC stations are killers...and the available holes may become hostile. :^) Lots of landscape on 75 is permanently filled--up band, and can be really hostile. Down band is less crowded, propagates better (really). Frequency hopping will increase the opportunities for maximizing the total number of QSOs with the FOX and the hounds...and inter alia for the hounds. We want to be sure that QRM doesn't kill chance of success for nearly everyone on any given night. (Think of what it would be like if we only hunted the CW FOX at 7.110+/- *every* session.)
- 3) Incentive to upgrade...face it, the real contesting gets done on 75 in the Advanced segment...and that's where the DX Window is (3.791-3.801).

Any further suggestions unique to doing it SSB? Any objections?

Fire away or forever hold your peace after lift-off. :^)

--

73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 12:36:48 1994

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 08:47:30 -0500 (EST)

From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

Subject: Re: FOX Schedule...SSB

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412190801.B15627-0100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

I would be happy to run as an SSB Fox from MI.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:05:31 1994

From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>

Message-Id: <199412191500.AA03254@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

Subject: Re: FOX Schedule...SSB

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 10:00:21 -0500 (EST)

Warren has volunteered to get a group together and buy me a microphone. Not needed and I'd hate to have it sit around and not get used. Besides that I wouldn't pass my voice on to the rest of the world. :-) The Texas accent would drive the English speaking crowd crazy!! :-) That's one of the nice things about CW. You don't have an accent. You can have a "signature" if you use a bug or handkey.

Thanks for the offer though. :-)

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:16:47 1994

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 08:43:20 -0600

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Message-Id: <9412191443.AA20700@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Subject: Re: FOX Schedule...SSB

Steve,

Good show on the SSB FOX hunt. Thanks for putting up the prize and I'm sure others in the group would be glad to help out.

-over-

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 14:42:05 1994
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Message-Id: <199412191459.AA03238@cardamom.unx.sas.com>
Subject: Re: FOX Schedule...SSB (fwd)
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 09:59:04 -0500 (EST)

Steve,

Sounds like fun. I've never done any QRP SSB, so should be fun
to try something new. Too bad Chuck will not be able to participate.
Maybe we should buy and send him a mike!! :-)

- Warren

--

Warren E. Lewis	saswel@unx.sas.com
Technical Support Division	(919) 677-8001 x6542
SAS Institute Inc.	PP-ASEL
Cary, NC	AD4ZE DOD#0021

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 17:56:22 1994
Message-Id: <m0rJnje-000B10C@mercury.mcs.com>
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 13:40:58 -0600
From: johnflem@popmail.mcs.com (John Fleming)
Subject: ftp site address

Greetings, fellow QRP geeks,

My boss made me unsubscribe. Could somebody send me the FTP
site address for the daily log ??

Thanks
John N9NDH

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(J)(o)(h)(n) (F)(l)(e)(m)(i)(n)(g)

**** Season's Greetings ****
johnflem@mcs.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:24:14 1994
From: qrmodena@csemail
Message-Id: <9412192353.AA115124@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
Subject: Re: ftp site address
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 18:53:30 EST

> My boss made me unsubscribe. Could somebody send me the FTP
> site address for the daily log ??
>
> Thanks
> John N9NDH
> -----

DAILY.QRP (posted after midnight...of previous day's postings)
3DAY.QRP (ditto...the three previous days combined)

Two places for anonymous FTP login:

ftp.Cybernetics.NET /pub/users/ab4e1

SunSITE.unc.edu /pub/academic/agriculture/agronomy

GOPHER readable form of the digests are at:

SunSITE.unc.edu /pub/academic/agriculture/agronomy/ham/BOATANCHORS

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 13:26:28 1994
From: CamQRP@aol.com
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 09:22:28 -0500
Message-Id: <941219092227_1800683@aol.com>
Subject: Homebrew Points

Happy Holidays, Y'all -

Finally got my hands on some Oak Hills manuals for a look-see. They are quite detailed and Heathkit-esque, right down to the pictorial detail of how to prepare a length of RG-174. Hmmm, seems like I've seen that one somewhere before...

But the part I was interested in was whether or not there was a step for every part, as in the old Heath manual. And there is not. There are steps which say "Install all of the resistors." or "Install all of the inductors." This requires the builder to be able to discern one from the other, and requires him (or her) to be able to juggle the resistor color code. Heath said "Pick up a 220 ohm resistor (red-red-brown) and put it in slot B." Not much knowledge needed for that. For this reason I consider the Explorer and Classic (and any other Oak Hills radio, up to the present) to qualify for homebrew credit in the ARCI contests.

I realize this is pushing the limit of the Homebrew definition as it is currently published, but it is the way I judge the Sierra, and that has a similarly detailed manual. We're scraping the bottom side of the line, as it were, but not without reason.

Ask any ten hams what they consider to be "homebrew", and you would probably get about nine different answers. The variation comes primarily from our differing levels of technical expertise. Here on qrp-l we have everything from rocket scientists to tutu-makers, with every level of skill represented. The techno-wizards would consider that "homebrew" means starting with a clean sheet of paper, designing a rig from scratch, etching the boards, scrounging the parts, building it, debugging it, and finalizing construction. A newer, not-so-technically oriented ham might think that "homebrew" meant buying a kit that had good instructions so he could have a fighting chance to get it working, at which time he would have a radio he could take backpacking and have some fun with.

Which to consider "homebrew"? I lean toward the side of leniency, for the following reasons:

- 1) To build is to learn. There are many people in this hobby who are not involved in electronics or radio in their work, and have no technical education. I fall heavily into this category. A great amount of what I know came from building stuff, mostly Heathkits in the early years. Of course in the later years Heath provided a tremendous education in the form of the HW-9, but that's another story. For many of us, building provided the cornerstone of our knowledge, and back then it was Heath. They are gone, but there are a number of new ones out there, filling the void, and hopefully the newer hams will benefit from these newer kit manufacturers.

- 2) Building grows the ranks of QRPers. Homebrewing is often said to be a lost or dying art, but those who say these things are most likely not QRPers. Where is homebrewing and building taking place in Ham Radio? Primarily inside the ranks of the QRPers. What is available to builders these days? QRP gear. If a new ham takes the time to set down his 2M HT long enough to pick up a soldering iron, chances are he is going to build a piece of QRP gear. We need to support and encourage both those who build the kits, and those who

manufacture the kits. It strengthens our ranks.

3) We need to support kit manufacturers. I don't want someone to make a purchase decision based on whether a particular kit qualifies for bonus points. If a guy decides that a particular kit has the right combination of features and price for him, I'd hope he would be able to buy it without making the quality of the manual a consideration. If this happens, we are in effect punishing manufacturers who are striving to make a better product. A similar argument applies to a seasoned homebrewer, who because of circumstances of time or whatever, decides to buy a particular kit instead of "rolling his own." He clearly does not need all the help the manual gives, but would still not be given bonus points if the rig were deemed not to qualify for said points. (It has been suggested that this builder could promise to keep his eyes closed while reading the manual, which I would support as long as he also promised to open his eyes before picking up the soldering iron!)

This might sound like heresy to the veteran homebrewer who doesn't need the benefit of a kit in the first place. Several schemes have surfaced to address the issue, such as: Have two levels of bonus points, one for "Homebrewed" and one for "Kit Built"; or score and report "Homebrewed", Kit Built" and "Commercial" in separate categories; or do away with all distinctions. The first two would complicate scoring, and almost all of the correspondence I have had regarding scoring has been along the lines of "Keep it Simple - Stupid."

The third proposal - do away with distinctions (homebrew bonus points) - bears some examination.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:01:06 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 14:32:02 -0600
Message-Id: <199412192032.AA04145@metronet.com>
From: tdrake@metronet.com (theodore drake)
Subject: Re: Homebrew Points

Thanks Cam, Your response seems very well reasoned and I couldn't agree more with the idea that 'to build is to learn'. Seems to me we should do everything possible to be inclusive rather than exclusive in our operating events.

Let's get those soldering Irons out and wait of ol' Santa!!!!!!
Should be plenty of newly Home Built rigs of one sort or another by the time spring rolls around.

73, 'Doc' W5TB

-
- W5TB/QRP

```
dit dit
Chuck Adams  K5F0  CP-60  adams@sgi.com
```

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 23:42:41 1994
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 09:26:38 PST
Message-Id: <9411197878.AA787857998@mail.creo.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: HW-16

(I think I just sent out a null reply...apologies to all...)

Chuck mentions the nifty HW-16 and the receiver mods. I do indeed have them, and they are:

R21 goes from 22k to 10k
R42 goes from 5.6k to 51k

R42 is part of the bias network for the 6EW6 IF amplifier, and R21 is partly responsible for bias on the first mixer, half a 6EA8. I can vouch for the effectiveness of these mods - they really do perk up the receiver. The power output mods for R13 and R14 should work as advertised. While the 6CL6 driver is more than capable of producing official QRP power levels (7.5 Watts plate dissipation), the additional tuned circuits that look after the 6GE5 final will make a cleaner signal.

There was an article in _ham radio_ in the early 1970s about converting an HW-16 to VFO transceive operation, without having to lug an external VFO around. It included better voltage regulation for the oscillators and key-click filtering on the sidetone - which I've found to be pretty clicky...

Now if I could keep mine from eating QSK transistors I'd be all set...I got an HG-10 VFO with the HW-16 and it has been creatively rewired, with a different function switch than in the Heath manual. I suspect this may be part of the problem. One of my New Year's resolutions is to be a more active ham, and one of the projects in the queue is to find out why the HW-16 keeps blowing up 2N1274s. I can just see me borrowing a digital storage scope from work to track down transients in a 1960s vintage radio. :-)

And now my 2 cents worth on what appears to be a contentious point: instead of nitpicking over step-by-step instructions and things, if you must define "homebrew" at all, why not define it in terms of the user's technical contribution to the final function of the radio - with "technical contribution" defined in terms of the user's technical expertise. For a beginner, putting together a Heathkit-style kit and getting it to work is a major task, and they should be rewarded and

encouraged in every way. If you're somebody like KK7B or W7ZOI I expect an original design with significant technological innovation.

Most of use are somewhere in between, and if you feel you had a significant contribution to the final form and function of your radio, that's good enough for me. Let's not go all legalistic over this, and let's not turn "homebrew" into yet another source of Us vs. Them divisiveness.

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 13:28:06 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 94 10:04:39 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9412191604.AA20817@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: HW-16 Mods

Gang,

Several people wanted this so I'm posting. HW-16 owners typically talk about low receiver sensitivity on the HW-16. It's a great little CW rig, crystal controlled unless you have the HG-10B VFO. You can find the rig for under \$75 and you want to get one that has been treated right. I've had a couple of these puppies back in the old days. My first "real" QSK rig internally switched without relays.

OK, dig out your schematic. I finally found my old one. R42 is a 5600 ohm resistor. Replace it with a 51K or 50K. This will up the gain on the IF Amplifier 6EW6, V4. Change R21, a 22K 2W to a 10K 2W resistor. R42 should probably be 1/2 or 1 W. I forgot what the calculations gave me many years ago. :-)

Check you voltages and do the calculations to be sure you are in safety limits on resistors power levels.

Now you'll be able to hear. I had another mod to convert 15M to 20M, but don't have it handy. It's simple to do though and has probably been written up somewhere in old QSTs.

dit dit
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 12:31:00 1994
From: femens@iquest.com
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 09:30:43 -0600
Message-Id: <199412191530.JAA15245@vespucci.iquest.com>
Subject: Microphone for Index Labs QRP+

Has anybody adapted a mike to th QRP+? What kind did you use? What (if any) pitfalls are there?

femens@iquest.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 17:32:22 1994
From: JDuffy@aol.com
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 14:39:08 -0500
Message-Id: <941219143907_2034848@aol.com>
Subject: RE: Microphone for QRP+

I used a Dynamic mic that came with my Yaesu 757 with fair results, but the rig really needs a electret mic for best results. I went ahead an ordered a mic from Bruce. Hopefully, it will be here soon. I'll let you know the results when I get it.

Regards,

Duffy - WB8NUT

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:19:28 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 16:07:19 -0500 (EST)
From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>
Subject: RE: Microphone for QRP+
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412191603.A28694-01000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

In the "For What it's Worth" column, Ten Tec Kits has an electret desk mic kit available for \$49.

If someone has one, I'd be interested in your comments. I have the 6 meter transverter and it was/is an excellent kit and outstanding value.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 02:50:00 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re newsgroup vs. list
Date: Tue, 20 Dec 94 00:37:31 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec20.003731.9107@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

An interesting comment in a recent posting by N9NDH--he said his boss made him unsubscribe to the mailing list. A lot of people have that problem--I've seen the comment many times. Also, a lot of people have outrageous monthly bills since they pay for each incoming e-mail byte--I've seen those comments many times, too. Everyone has different circumstances than everyone else, and the plain, simple, incontrovertible fact is that a mailing list DOES NOT WORK for a large number of people. That has been proven over and over, month after month, by postings privately and to the list. We lose a lot of lurkers, but also lose a lot of people who have good QRP comments to post. The debate goes on.... 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:04:02 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 15:47:35 -0700 (MST)
From: "James P. Rybak" "
<jrybak@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>
Subject: Non-inductive Resistors
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412191547.A13467-0100000@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>

I'm wanting to get some 2 watt resistors to make a 6 db attenuator pad. Are 2 watt carbon resistors still being made? If so, who sells them? Alternatively, Ocean State Electronics lists 2 watt metal oxide resistors. Are these inductive? (When I say inductive, I mean at frequencies of 30 Mhz or less.)

Thanks for any help you can provide.

Jim WOKSD

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 02:09:51 1994
Message-Id: <199412200456.XAA28761@thor.INS.CWRU.Edu>
From: Stephen Trier <sct@po.cwru.edu>
Date: 20 Dec 1994 04:55:56 GMT
Subject: Re: Non-inductive Resistors

> Alternatively, Ocean State Electronics lists 2 watt metal oxide
> resistors. Are these inductive?

The 3W metal oxide resistors sold by Digikey are not inductive.

I finally measured the reflected power from my dummy load made from those resistors. On 50 mW of 7 MHz in, the OHR WM-1 registers no

reflected power. If those resistors were inductive, I'd have expected more reflected power.

Stephen

--

Stephen Trier "If it sounds good, it is good."
sct@po.cwru.edu - Duke Ellington
KG8IH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 03:19:45 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: Poll Input
Date: Tue, 20 Dec 94 00:29:19 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec20.002919.9107@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Thanks for your comment along with your vote, pointing out one argument for the mailing list--when you are gone for an extended time, your mailbox is full to overflowing, but everything HAS accumulated, while on a newsgroup a lot of things have "timed out" and expired and been purged, and you will never see them. On the other hand, many people continue to complain that they cannot handle the flow of e-mail messages, for a variety of reasons, and many have unsubscribed due to that--and said so, in so many words. The cure would seem to be a newsgroup echoed to a mailing list, or perhaps implementation of a true digest function. (N1IST said recently that we MAY get one early in the new year, but don't put any guarantees on that; did you ever do a query of listserv@netcom.com and see how many mailing lists they have? I didn't count, but it's in the vicinity of 500, plus or minus a few dozen.) 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 22:15:51 1994
Subject: qrp in the UK
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 13:12:56 -0800
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Message-Id: <9412191313.aa08374@paris.ics.uci.edu>

Picked this up from rec.radio.amateur.misc, and thought it was interesting. I will be listening.

>Peter
>G0PUB
writes in a thread about 30 meters:

>BTW, the UK novice licence has a 3 watt CW allocation from 10.130 MHz
>to 10.140 MHz. Please take the time to scan this 10kHz section for 2E0 2M0
>2W0 2I0 2U0 2J0 & 2D0 callsigns.

Pretty neat.

Clark
WA3JPG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 19:08:28 1994
Message-Id: <9412192210.AA22972@elmailer.asic.mtv.nec.com>
Date: Mon, 19 DEC 94 14:01:43
From: Charles Furnweger <CHARLES@asic.mtv.nec.com>
Subject: QRP lunch held last Saturday

Hi Gang!

Was I ever surprised! Last Friday, at about noon (PST), I sent out an announcement of a QRP lunch that I was setting up for the next day (Saturday). Shortly thereafter, I received a regret message from "no show" saying that he was in Texas and would not be able to make it. I also received two other regret messages, so I was thinking that the timing was bad....you know, late announcement, holiday shopping, etc. So, I planned on it just being Doug and myself.

When I arrived at the restaurant, the "QRPers" already had two tables filled and were adding a third table! I was told that the reason for the crowd was that they needed a "QRP" fix! It had been 2-weeks since the last meeting of the NORCAL QRP club and it would be 2-more weeks before the next meeting (January 1) and that was just toooo long of a wait!

The attendees were:

Stan	K4DRD
Doug	KI6DS
Robert	KM6QP
Denis	K06GF
Jeff	KD6MNP
Bruce	AA7AR/6
Greg	KE6NYA/AE

Eric WA6HHQ
Charles WB4OWL (that's me)

Goodies that showed up were an OHR Sprint brought by Bruce and I brought a computer joystick that had been converted to be a portable CW paddle and the Super-CMOS II keyer which I built using the Idiom Press kit.

The conversation ranged from Greg and his recent upgrade to extra class (congratulations!) to Chuck Adam's el-cheapo, do everything, keyer project (I can't wait to see the finished result!).

Lunch lasted about one and a half hours then several headed to Computer Literacy (a book store that specializes in computer and high-technology books), a couple went to Ham Radio Outlet and others wandered over to Halted Specialties Company (HSC, a popular surplus store). I'm sure someone must also have gone to Fry's Electronics (a discount computer store) and Weird Stuff (another surplus shop). All of these stores are within a couple of blocks of where the lunch was at.

If any I-Netters are going to be in the Bay Area and would like to get together, make an announcement a few days before arriving and a crowd will probably show up! Our normal dinner location when out-of-town QRPers visit is "Two-guys from Italy", which, as you can guess, is an Italian Restaurant. It is centrally located (for Silicon Valley) in Mountain View and is easy to find.

Thanks to all for showing up! It was fun!

73s..... :-)
Charles
WB4OWL

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 12:08:50 1994
From: "Greg Taylor" <GTAYLOR@TAEX003N.tamu.edu>
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 08:48:43 CDT
Subject: Re: QRP Philosophy
Message-Id: <86E98C4840@taex003n.tamu.edu>

conventional wisdom says "you can't work 'em if you can't hear 'em", but not hearing stations is rarely the problem. I've used all kinds of simple receivers, direct conversions, simple superhets, etc. and don't think I ever lost a QSO because of my receiver. The problem is that if you're QRP with a no-gain antenna you hear TOO MUCH. You hear a DX station at say, S5 with a pileup on him and you waste hours calling him when there's just about no chance that you'll work him; even if there weren't a zillion other

stations calling. I say that the best receiver accessory for a QRPer is a 10 dB attenuator pad on your receiver input. That way you're more likely to concentrate on stations there's a reasonable chance of actually working.

73... howie
wb2cpu@world.std.com

Agree for folks just getting in to qrp this could reduce the frustration level but I (and I know others) have worked stations like this and I wouldn't want to miss the opportunity....you develop a feel for knowing when you just aren't going to break through....

Greg, KD4HZ

```
*****
Dr. Gregory S. Taylor           !MAIL: 110 Dairy Science Building
Extension Program Leader for    !      College Station, TX 77843-2124
Community Development          !VOICE: 409-845-4445
Texas Agricultural Extension Service!FAX: 409-847-8744
Texas A&M University System      !EMAIL: Reply or g-taylor4@tamu.edu
*****
```

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:56:24 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 17:06:53 -0700 (MST)
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: Re: QRP Philosophy
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941219170134.24474I-1000000@ume>

Its hard to explain the "feel" but I know what you mean.....you often can tell if its worth trying fairly rapidly. I work a lot of "general" contests and often break thru "against all odds" (propagation gods are no doubt involved). Sometimes I call those watery, europeans that are only s3 or s4 and get a reply first call. Other times stateside stations 40 over 9 will call cq into dead air and can't hear me! Go figure! Coming back to the pileup 15 or 30 minutes later when propagation has improved to your location has been the most useful "secret" to date.

```
*****
Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)      *                VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca          * NorCal 519  ARCI 7099  GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276      * "Power is no substitute for skill"
*****
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From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 16:05:46 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 09:56:52 -0800 (PST)
From: John Dundas <ab6dg@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: QRP PLUS XCVR
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412190929.A2374-01000000@netcom11>

Hi Byron--

You asked for questions--my only question is, when am I going to receive mine? I ordered it November 7, and am still told it is coming "real soon now"!!

I haven't seen much mention of the rig on this group, probably because it is not a "home brew" item, but I think we'll be hearing a lot more about them, once a few more are actually delivered!

72 de John AB6DG

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:26:39 1994

From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 18:02:56 -0500

Message-Id: <941219180253_2199432@aol.com>

Subject: QRP PLUS XCVR FEATURES

I've received quite a few replies to my initial message about the QRP PLUS xcvr, from Germany, Japan, Canada and the U.S., requesting even more info. So Heres a compilation of answers and more info about this remarkable transceiver:

1. The QRP Plus has dual VFO's, split operation with a reverse button, an RIT with unlimited range that resets when you select "transceive", built in Iambic keyer, LCD readout so you can work close to the band edge, digital SCAF filter adjustable from 100 to 2400 hz in 100 hz steps and an S-meter/power output meter. Its alot of radio for 600 dollars.
2. SSB - You supply your own mic or buy one from Index Labs. I haven't run SSB yet, so won't comment. But see you all in the January ARCI SSB contest.
3. DIGITAL MODES - it doesnt support shifting the carrier freq like original RTTY, but should work nicely with audio shifting RTTY, AMTOR, PACKET and other modes.
4. MILLIWATTING - the RF power adjust pot goes from 0 to over 5 watts output. the pot is hard to adjust with your fingers, the nylon shaft only sticks out the back of the rig about 1/8 of an inch. It can be adjusted with a screw driver though.
5. ACCESSORIES - I remember hearing about some accessorys for the Plus, a microphone matched to the Plus, and some other goodies (antenna tuner) that should be ready soon.
6. S-METER - reads like my Kenwood TS-450-sat meter, weak signals can be copied that don't move the meter and vy strong signals can pin the meter. The meter works well enough that I use it to give signal reports. QRP'ers appreciate accurate sig reports more than the QRO op.
7. EXTERNAL LIGHTS FOR FRONT PANEL - I'm working on a way to light up the front panel, LCD display and S-meter without glare and well enough to use the

rig at night outdoors and with minimal current draw. I'll be using Radio Shack # 272-1141 miniature lamps, they require 12 volts at 25 ma each. About six should do it with a total current draw of 150 ma.

8. WEIGHT - about 4 lbs

9. Index Labs claims full CW break-in. It seems more like semi break-in to me. I can't hear the receiver between dits or dahs, only between words. The Kenwood TS-450 claims semi break-in and yet I can hear the receiver between dits and dahs.

10. ANTENNA CONNECTOR - was a BNC, is now a SO-239. Tnx Index Labs.

11. DIGITAL SCAF FILTER - audio filter from 100 to 2400 hz in 100 hz steps, works very well and easy to adjust. Hold the bandwidth button in and turn the tuning dial, 1/2 turn for all 24 filter positions. its easy and fast, with practice, you can change filters with one hand.

12. BUILT-IN IAMBIC KEYS - 10-45 wpm in 5 wpm increments. needs to be adjustable in smaller increments, 2 wpm is in the works for the next ROM revision. Yes, features can be added and improved by buying a new ROM chip. Don't know the price. This keyer has no memories. I dont use it, so cant comment on it. I use the AEA Morse machine-3 keyer with 20 memories.

13. ORDERING TIME - I waited four months for my Plus to arrive. the delivery times should be much less by now. Check when you order, this is a private company with limited resources, dont expect "Next Day Air".

14. NEED MORE INFO - call Index Labs at 206-851-5725

15. AGC POPPING - the popping can be minimized by using the 20 db attenuator, then the only time its a problem is during heavy QSB, when the signal goes from vy weak to vy strong and an attenuator cant be used effectively.

16. Keep in mind, all radios have birdies, shortcomings, hard to use or hard to understand features, remember the Argonaut II birdies, the ARC-40 thumbwheel switches, the MFJ drifting problems, etc. Some of these, can be worked around.

17. I would like to see more features added to this radio, but I wouldnt like to see the price go up any. Its a matter of where do you draw the line on features VRS costs. This radio was designed to run off batterys, extremely low current draw with the most features. I know they've succeeded, and done a terrrrific job.

18. Keep in mind, the ARC-40 is a single band synthesized xcvr for 289 dollars.

the Argo 555 is a single band xcvr for 600 dollars, (plug in band modules cost 25 each)

9 MFJ xcvs would cost over 1400 dollars, if they made one for each band.

19. Also, the built in shortwave receiver using a product detector allows you to listen to WWV for time and solar flux info.

I am not associated with Index labs in any way, except as a satisfied customer. I own a Argonaut 509 and two MFJ xcvs, and see the need for a multi-band xcvr with dual VFO's and as many built in features as I can get, to keep the number of boxes and connecting cables to a minimum, when I go portable. I would rather operate then build radios. I've built my share of

Heathkits, Eico Kits, Knight Kits, etc. Now, its time to wear out a couple of log books.

Byron Johnson WA8LCZ Warren Michigan Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Member: ARCI-QRP, MI-QRP, G-QRP, NORTHWEST QRP, NORCAL QRP,
CO-QRP, NEW ENGLAND QRP, MFJ-QRP

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 02:32:25 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 19:49:20 -0500
Message-Id: <94121919492081@sescva.esc.edu>
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: QRP--SSB FOX

I will be happy to run qrp-ssb from Long Island, NY
REGARDS.....Peter N2KPY

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 05:40:08 1994
From: "RICHARD HIEBER" <SZ0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Date: Tue, 20 Dec 1994 09:40:19 MET
Subject: QRPing in a sunspot low?
Message-Id: <1348503771@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi gang,

I am wondering about what QRPing will be like in 1995 and the following two years. Somewhere in that period we will hit the minimum of the current sunspot cycle (I guesstimate it at the end of 1996).

I suppose the upper bands will be really dead then during the whole year (sob!) and the only DX band left will be 30 meters. Are the prospects really that black? Is QRPing only a hobby for good propagation conditions? And how do the lower bands (80 and 160) behave during a sunspot low? Do they also deteriorate (probably, because everybody and his dog is gathering there) or do they become better?

I really don't know and I am looking for answers. I got my shortwave license in 1990 when 10 meters was wide open all day long when I first operated with a borrowed rig during the xmas holidays ...

Aah, those were the days. Maybe I am just getting depressed?

Seasons greetings
Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ / AA8CP
sz0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 03:05:40 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412190428.AA19031@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: QRPing on 40 M tonight
Date: Sun, 18 Dec 1994 23:28:43 -0500 (EST)

After reading the micro-watters efforts, I decided to take a break and play at QRP tonight.

The band seemed good...with VP8CPS running a good pileup...
gosh isn't that the Falkland Islands?...and I heard a
ZS6/G---- calling CQ, FY5GJ was loud out of S. AMerica, and XE1UZ
was slow keying it from Mexico City(?).

Understand I have a TS-430-S...and put *two* power meters in the
line to get a consensus on output level...one having a 20 watt
scale and the dual-needle jobbie having a 15 watt scale. DO you think
a real Milli/Micro-WATT meter would be worth any added accuracy?

Answered the CQ of W50U on 7.016...who was running a KW...his/599;
mine 339. I estimate Gordon in OK to be 1500 miles away...I running
about 50 mW for 30,000 miles/Watt.

I upped the power to 250 mW and called CQ on 7.041...answered by
Mike N70GF nr Houston, TX: his 539 to my 339...for 6,000 miles/watts
if Houston is 1500 miles away.

Then answered KD2IX/QRP, Frank in Carmel, NY with him running 5 watts
and me running 50 mW. Assuming he is 500 miles away...for 10,000 miles/Watt.
Where is CArmel anyway?

My wire vertical dipole still seems to do OK. Anyone know of a
computer program that can tell me how far away someone is in
accurate miles? :^)

--

73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue Dec 20 00:08:49 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412191437.AA16491@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: Re: QRPing on 40 M tonight
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 09:37:01 -0500 (EST)

Steve, AB4EL, relates his work at QRPP levels on 40M.

So, I ran his data through my Great-Circle Bearing program and here is what I get.

IRIS 67: new <data.raleigh
Raleigh,NC 35.772N 78.639W

Norman,OK	35.222N	97.439W	273	1700	1055 miles
Spring,TX	30.08N	95.417W	252	1686	1047 miles
Carmel,NY	41.43N	73.681W	32	762	473 miles

The columns are for destination, long, lat, heading (degrees), kilometers, and miles (which is labeled).

The program is a little ditty that I did many years ago to calculate great circle bearings and distances. The program is written in C. I'll write it up in QQ first and then post it.

There are two things that are important here. You have to have a good data base for US locations. No problem here. I got the data from the last US census, stripped out the location, long/lat, and separated the data by states.

Results in 50 files, 125,479 cities/towns, and 9,686,359 bytes of disk space chewed up rapidly!!

The second thing you need is a database for DX (relative to the USofA). This is much more difficult to do. I spent a heck of a lot of time going to just about every bookstore in Dallas and the surrounding area looking for an Atlas that had long/lat data. Did you know that many Atlas's (the G3's can correct my English on that one :-)) no longer carry or print the long/lat data for cities, etc. I guess they couldn't agree on what the accurate values were. I noted widely varying values between different publishers. Here I use the "OXFORD Concise Atlas of the World". It runs \$30.00, but I use it all the time, so I'm getting my money's worth out of it. Another year and I'll have it worn out.

Also note that I convert (degrees,minutes,seconds) to degrees with fractional number. You do this by $\text{degrees} = \text{degrees} + \text{min}/60 + \text{seconds}/3600$. I of course have to do this from the Atlas but my US database has this already done for me. That way I didn't have to write a fancy parser for the input data. :-)

FYI

And you wondering how the other morning I generated the

miles/watt values so quickly. I assure you that I have better things to do with my time than drag through the calculations. That's why I have a 100MIP processor on my desk. :-)

Also, for the people who have got to have this stuff to the nearest foot. You are going to spend a lot of time and money getting each QTH accurately and I don't think it's worth it.

I get the other station's QTH from the "QRZ: CDRUM". If they enough room I may just give them all the data and let them distribute it. That way the FCC data, the C code, and the US long/lat data would be in one place. Then I'd really be famous. :-)

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 12:22:20 1994
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 10:14:39 -0500 (EST)
From: "DONALD A. COLEMAN (EXT. 2850)" <DACOLEMAN@fair1.fairfield.edu>
Subject: Re: Re Newgroup/List vote
Message-Id: <01HKTOE3HAX28ZI67Z@fair1.fairfield.edu>

I think these are good arguments for not changing the list over to a Newsgroup.

Don Coleman, W1V0Q

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 13:01:04 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re: Re Newgroup/List vote
Date: Sun, 18 Dec 94 14:16:49 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Dec18.141649.13869@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

You bring up good points about newsgroups vs. lists. However, not everyone has filter capabilities on their system. Available functions and options vary widely and wildly; if you took 100 people at random, you would probably find at least 20 different sets of circumstances, operating systems, functionalities, etc. The most common flaw, as I see it, in many commentaries on this topic is "I can easily do XXXX and therefore the newsgroup/mailling list [choose one] is obviously the best." Many people do NOT have USENET access, others have limited access. For instance, I can read AND write to

rec.radio.amateur.anything, I can read-only on other rec.radio topics, and on anything outside of rec.radio I can only do a listing of topics--my access privileges do not allow me to write to, or even to read, anything outside of rec.radio. On both my limited USENET and my e-mail, I do NOT have any sort of filtering capability whatsoever--my host is running UniBoard, which is a relatively rudimentary system, with nothing approaching the complexity or sophistication of PINE, ELM, RN, TRN, etc. (For a hardware equivalence, you could call it a "dumb terminal".)

You say that anyone with a keyboard can access a newsgroup. Quite true, but anyone with a keyboard can access any mailing list, too--it just takes a bit longer and a bit more work. Witness the recent spamming of netcom.com, where every mailing list got hit with a bogus message, loading down and cluttering up the system. The message itself had no text as I recall, but the header ran to quite a few pages. And everyone on netcom.com got it. True, being on a mailing list limits the number of people, but it does not necessarily limit the amount of "noise" on the list. People have been complaining about the deterioration of the signal to noise ratio on qrp-l lately, and we are a list, not a newsgroup. On the other hand, look at rec.radio.amateur.homebrew and r.r.a.antenna--those have very low noise contents, for the most part, and yet they are newsgroups which anyone with a keyboard can access. Signal to noise ratio is a function of the clientele, not exclusivity.

Many people unsubscribed to qrp-l when we lost the digest function. A lot of them did it publicly, by sending unsubscribe messages to the list, and that is probably the tip of the iceberg. Many still unsub publicly, despite repeated postings giving the correct procedure. One has to assume that a number of those public unsubscribers are well aware of the proper method but choose to send a message by doing it publicly.

As I said in an earlier posting, any vote we take among the qrp-l subscribers will be inevitably skewed toward keeping the list, since a large number of people who do not like the list simply because it IS a list, have already left us and thus cannot comment on it.

The ideal solution would perhaps be to have a newsgroup which is echoed to a mailing list. Is this possible? Anything is possible. The question is whether the current software and system configurations will allow it; anything is possible, but not everything which is possible is feasible or politically acceptable. If it is not possible to echo a newsgroup to a mailer, it can only be because no one took steps to do it or because someone consciously chooses to not do it, for whatever reason. Lots of people like the list as it is, lots of people like the idea of a QRP forum but cannot stick with it while it is on a mailer, for various reasons.

I don't know if we should start up another round of discussion on this topic; I'm sure every conceivable point has been brought up, on both the newsgroup and list sides. Would anyone be willing to wade through the archives on one of the previous rounds, gather together the arguments and comments on both sides, edit it down a bit and post it to the list?

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 02:43:40 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Dec 94 21:50:00 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9412190350.AA20281@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: SSB Fox

Dr. Rick Zabrodski asks why not SSB? Well, the prizes are CW rigs. When we get a \$50 SSB kit, then someone can come up with the race for the kit(s) and the group can do it on SSB. Then again, a group can do the same thing for SSB as we are currently doing for CW. You just have to figure out a schedule and if there are to be prizes or certificates or for fun.

I have four rigs capable of SSB operation (I think). None of them have a microphone anywhere in the house. :-)

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 04:11:06 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Dec 1994 21:50:21 -0800 (PST)
From: CHARLIE LOFGREN <CLOFGREN@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>
Subject: the Z-Match *a little long*
Message-Id: <01HKSYCQZJNQ0047R2@BENSON.MCKENNA.EDU>

I've noticed the interest in the Z-Match and thought I'd add some detail.

I did an article on it ("The Z-Match Coupler--Revisited and Revised") in volume 3 of The ARRL Antenna Compendium (1992), pp. 191-95. This describes the Z-Match's theory of operation--basically an L-network,

with link coupled output--and reviews the original circuit from the article by A. King (W1CJL) in QST, May 1955. It also describes some modifications to increase the matching range, and includes a related tuner with a single-coil circuit. (This, like the single-coil Z-Matches that Bill Orr has described in CQ, uses the multiband tank circuit described in Johnson (W6MUR), "Multiband Tank Circuits," QST, July 1954.) I'll get back to the last variation below.

To get decent efficiency from a Z-Match, it's important to have tight coupling between the output link(s) and the tank coil(s). I've found coils wound on iron-powder toroids are best. Interwind the link(s) with the turns of the main tank coil(s).

Another problem is output balance. With either the two-coil or the single-coil version of the Z-Match, high impedance loads (a thousand ohms or more) may result in output current imbalance, but no worse than with some balun designs. At least that's what my fairly careful measurements indicate. (See below for a suggestion about baluns.)

I have an article coming out in Communications Quarterly sometime in the next year on what I call the IBZ Match--the "Improved Balanced Z-Match." This is a cross between a "standard" link-coupled tuner and a Z-match and pretty much solves the problem of output imbalance. But it requires a four-section capacitor in the tank circuit, so doesn't lend itself well to miniaturization.

Anyone building the single-coil version of the Z-Match that Bill Orr has described (e.g., CQ Mag, August 1993), which has also appeared elsewhere with slight variations, can re-do the taps on the tank coil to improve output balance. If anyone is interested, I can provide details. This is a case where an input balun also helps. (But--to take issue with a common suggestion--beware of an input balun to get balanced output with the *usual* single-ended matching network--e.g., an L or T network. The common bus between the lower sides of the input and output ports means that the series impedance of the *input* balun also appears between the lower side of the *output* and ground, and this can cause problems with high impedance loads.)

I've also found that an output balun wound as a conventional transformer rather than as a transmission-line transformer (the usual design) does a good job with high impedance loads at QRP levels, using an FT-114A-61 or FT-140-61 core. (Actually, the smaller FT-114-61 does OK.) I use a special configuration for the winding placement. The result is very good output balance over a wide impedance range--better, as I measure it, than with a transmission-line-transformer design. In terms of efficiency, too, the result seems equal to or better than the transmission-line-transformer variety over a wide impedance range. At QRO, the arrangement might have problems with core heating, but I don't

have enough RF available to check this! Again, I'd be happy to provide details.

I use this last-described output balun with the "L-Z Match" that's included in my Antenna Compendium article and has taps on the tank-circuit coil rather than a link or links. (I've done some modification to the coil taps since the Compendium article was published.) The same balun arrangement can be used to good advantage with other matching networks, too, but I find the basic Z-Match circuit easier to adjust than a tapped-coil T-, L-, or Pi-network. With tapped coils instead of roller coils, these latter networks often don't allow 1:1 matches (or close enough), particularly at the higher frequencies.

Sorry about the long note, which probably stretches the netiquette. I only recently started reading QRP-L, after Richard, KI6SN, urged me to. Anyhow, I'd be interested in any comments on the various Z-Match variations.

72,

Charlie Lofgren, W6JJZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Dec 19 23:51:51 1994
From: ab4el@Cybernetics.NET (Stephen Modena)
Message-Id: <9412192037.AA20452@Cybernetics.NET>
Subject: Volunteers to be SSB QRP FOXes have been coming in
Date: Mon, 19 Dec 1994 15:37:55 -0500 (EST)

OK...just to let people know that I already have 5 or 6 who have indicated a desire to play FOX.

I'm going to treat that as sufficient reason to go ahead.

I've received some hints about freqs on 40...in agreement with my experience.

I will scout some tonight...am willing to accept the views of others on suitable freq segments. Don't be bashful.

Will have a preliminary set of rules for people to look over by tomorrow...

Will be fox this week...likely Thursday...nothing like getting the snowball rolling down hill to generate snowball growth.

40 M operation is mandatory...75 M-in-additon is optional.
You must have a General license to play (at least as far as the

FCC is concerned :^)...but don't hesitate to be a fox because you
only have a General, 'cuz a General license will be *enough* to
meet the necessary on-air/approved place minimum.

More to come...

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73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC